Application Serial No.: 09/287,631 Attorney Docket No.: 3063.0396-02

wherein said second layer is a wear layer having a uniform melt viscosity that is applied before said chemically embossing, and cured prior to said mechanically embossing.

54. A method of making a surface covering comprising:

chemically embossing a first layer, and

mechanically embossing a portion of a second layer, wherein said second layer is a wear layer that has been cured prior to said mechanical embossing. --

<u>REMARKS</u>

I. <u>Status of the Claims</u>

Claims 25, 26, 33-46 and 48-54 are currently pending. No claim is presently amended or allowed. Applicants have added new claims 53 and 54 to further define an aspect of the claimed invention. Support for this amendment can be found in the present specification. See paragraph bridging pages 11-12.

II. <u>Information Disclosure Statements</u>

The Examiner has requested a copy of an article by Andrew Hunter cited on the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 20, 2001, and discussed on page 18 of

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